United Nations A/59/483/Add.6

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 December 2004

Original: English

**Fifty-ninth session**
Agenda item 85 (f)

# Sustainable development: Convention on Biological Diversity

## Report of the Second Committee*

*Rapporteur*: Mr. Azanaw Tadesse **Abreha** (Ethiopia)

## I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 85 (see A/59/483, para. 2). Action on sub-item (f) was taken at the 18th and 37th meetings, on 27 October and 3 December 2004. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/59/SR.18 and 37).

## II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/59/L.12 and A/C.2/59/L.55

2. At the 18th meeting, on 27 October 2004, the representative of Qatar, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity" (A/C.2/59/L.12), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000, 56/197 of 21 December 2001, 57/253 and 57/260 of 20 December 2002 and 58/212 of 23 December 2003,

"*Reiterating* that the Convention on Biological Diversity is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in nine parts, under the symbol A/59/483 and Add.1-8.

04-64942 (E) 171204

"*Recalling* the World Summit on Sustainable Development commitments to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, which will require action at all levels, including the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries,

"*Recalling also* the commitment made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to negotiate within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources,

"*Expressing its deep appreciation* to the Government of Malaysia for hosting the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, held in Kuala Lumpur, from 9 to 20 and on 27 February and from 23 to 27 February 2004, respectively,

"*Expressing its deep appreciation also* to the Government of Brazil for its offer to host the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, to be held in the first half of 2006,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, transmitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

"2. *Takes note also* of the outcome of the seventh meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the outcome of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

"3. *Welcomes* the decision of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to elaborate and negotiate an international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing;

"4. *Notes* the progress made by the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in establishing an operational framework for the implementation of the Protocol and reiterates that the effective implementation of the Protocol will require the full support of Parties and Governments and of relevant international organizations, in particular with regard to the provision of assistance to developing countries in capacity-building for biosafety;

"5. *Invites* the countries that have not yet done so to ratify or to accede to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

"6. *Invites* the parties to the Convention that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity to consider doing so;

"7. *Encourages* developed countries parties to the Convention to contribute to the relevant trust funds of the Convention, in particular so as to enhance the full participation of the developing countries parties in all of its activities;

"8. *Urges* parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with its provisions;

"9. *Takes note* of the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and further encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities among the secretariats, while respecting their independent legal status;

"10. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to continue reporting to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention, including its Cartagena Protocol;

"11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session, under the item entitled 'Sustainable development', the sub-item entitled 'Convention on Biological Diversity'."

3. At the 37th meeting, on 3 December 2004, the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, Ewa Anzorge (Poland), introduced and orally corrected a draft resolution entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity" (A/C.2/59/L.55), which she submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.12 (see A/C.2/59/SR.37).

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.55, as orally corrected (see para. 6).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.55, draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.12 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

# III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

6. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

## Convention on Biological Diversity

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000, 56/197 of 21 December 2001, 57/253 and 57/260 of 20 December 2002 and 58/212 of 23 December 2003,

*Reiterating* that the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

*Recalling* the World Summit on Sustainable Development commitments to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, which will require action at all levels, including the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries,

*Taking note* of the entry into force of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the objectives of which are the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their use, in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity, for sustainable agriculture and food security,

*Expressing its deep appreciation* to the Government of Malaysia for hosting the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, held in Kuala Lumpur, from 9 to 20 and on 27 February and from 23 to 27 February 2004, respectively,

*Expressing its deep appreciation also* to the Government of Brazil for its offer to host the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, to be held in the first half of 2006,

*Noting* the efforts of the Government of France to organize a biodiversity-related conference in Paris in 2005,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, transmitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;[2]

---

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[2] See A/59/197, sect. III.

2. *Takes note also of* the outcome of the seventh meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity[2] and the outcome of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,[2] and urges all parties to these respective agreements to implement their decisions;

3. *Notes* the recent progress made with respect to the achievement of the three objectives set out in the Convention on Biological Diversity;

4. *Notes also* the progress made at the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in establishing an operational framework for the implementation of the Protocol and reiterates that the effective implementation of the Protocol will require the full support of parties and of relevant international organizations, in particular with regard to the provision of assistance to developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition in capacity-building for biosafety;

5. *Invites* the countries that have not yet done so to ratify or to accede to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

6. *Invites* the parties to the Convention that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity[3] to consider doing so;

7. *Invites* countries to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;

8. *Encourages* developed countries parties to the Convention to contribute to the relevant trust funds of the Convention, in particular so as to enhance the full participation of the developing countries parties in all of its activities;

9. *Urges* parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with its provisions;

10. *Takes note* of the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[4] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[5] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and further encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities among the secretariats, while respecting their independent legal status;

11. *Stresses* the importance of harmonizing the reporting requirements of the biodiversity-related conventions while respecting their independent legal status;

12. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to continue reporting to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention, including its Cartagena Protocol;

---

[3] See UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".